

## PSC NEWS Missouri Public Service Commission

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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## MONEY HEADED TO AREA COMMUNITY ACTION AGENCY TO HELP WITH HEATING BILLS

JEFFERSON CITY—Nearly \$18,000 will be headed to the West Central Missouri Community Action Agency to help with winter heating bills, the PSC announced today. This money will be used to help with the agency's low-income housing energy assistance program.

"This money will provide valuable assistance as the local community action agency helps those who are struggling to pay their winter heating bills," said PSC Chairman Jeff Davis. "This is certainly needed assistance as we enter the heating season."

The source of the money is funds unclaimed by Cass County Telephone Company (CassTel) customers who were eligible to receive credits and/or cash distributions under an agreement between the PSC Staff, the Office of the Public Counsel, CassTel, Local Exchange Company LLC, FairPoint Communications, Inc. and FairPoint Communications Missouri, Inc. The Commission approved the agreement in May 2006. The agreement resolved an overearnings complaint case filed by the PSC Staff.

Under the agreement, CassTel customers received one-time bill credits totaling \$350,000, or approximately \$55 per customer. In addition, the telephone company paid approximately \$3.25 million to eligible customers; each customer received over \$500 per line. Under the agreement funds that can not be distributed to eligible CassTel customers go to the community action agency.

The West Central Missouri Community Action Agency serves nine Missouri counties, including Cass County.